

What Is Claimed Is:

1 1. A multi-stage email interception method, comprising the
2 steps of:

3 receiving an email message;

4 querying the receiving number corresponding to the email
5 message from an array according to the related information of
6 the email message;

7 rejecting the email message if the receiving number is
8 higher than a first setting value and the email conforms to the
9 email characteristics recorded in a specific email record; and

10 accepting and forwarding the email message to a specific
11 mailbox if the receiving number is higher than a third setting
12 value and the email address of the recipient of the email message
13 does not appear in the recipient field of the email message.

1 2. The method as claimed in claim 1 further accepting the
2 email message first and then deleting the email message if the
3 receiving number is higher than a second setting value and the
4 email address of the recipient of the email message does not
5 appear in the recipient field of the email message.

1 3. The method as claimed in claim 2 further recording the
2 email characteristics corresponding to the email message into
3 the specific email record if the receiving number is higher than
4 the second setting value and the email address of the recipient
5 of the email message does not appear in the recipient field of
6 the email message.

1 4. The method as claimed in claim 1 further recording the
2 related information of the email message into the array.

1 5. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the array is
2 a first-in-first-out array.

1 6. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the related
2 information comprises the subject of the email message.

1 7. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the related
2 information comprises the text information of the email message.

1 8. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the email
2 characteristics comprise the network address of the host sending
3 the email message.

1 9. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the email
2 characteristics comprise the sender information.

1 10. The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the sender
2 information comprise the name of the sender.

1 11. The method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the sender
2 information comprise the email address of the sender.

1 12. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the email
2 characteristics comprise the subject.

1 13. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the recipient
2 field comprises the field of direct recipients.

Client's ref.: 90A030
Our ref:0739-7460-USf/yianhou/kevin

1 14. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the recipient
2 field comprises the field of copy recipients.

1 15. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the recipient
2 field comprises the field of hidden copy recipients.

1 16. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first
2 setting value is larger than the second setting value, and the
3 second setting value is larger than the third setting value.